



# Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE)

## Parent Information

In September 2022 the curriculum in Wales is changing. The new curriculum is designed for all children and it will support creative lessons with real-life meaning. It will suit pupils needs and help them reach their full potential regardless of their complexities. The curriculum consists of 6 Areas of Learning and Experience as well as there being cross-curricular skills. Relationships and Sexuality Education is a mandatory area of the new curriculum and will be delivered to all pupils at Penmaes at a level suited to their developmental needs.



# ***A developmentally appropriate Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE)***

The Welsh Government believes that all young people should have the right to access information that keeps them safe from harm. This includes learning about healthy relationships, keeping safe including online, and being confident to raise issues with responsible adults.

Schools create safe and empowering environments and the new Curriculum for Wales will build on and promote this. In a world where there is so much information, including misinformation and harmful materials, circulating online, we want children and young people to have the tools to be able to understand how relationships, sex, gender and sexuality shape their own and other people's lives: but only at the appropriate times and ages.

## **What is RSE?**

Relationships and sex education is learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up.

These are the expectations set by the Department for Education:

- respectful relationships, including friendship and families
- online media
- being safe
- intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health



# Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)

**“High quality RSE is rights and equity based. It is underpinned by enabling the human rights of children, and has equality and non-discrimination at its heart.”**

*(Sally Holland Children’s Commissioner of Wales),  
24.06.2021*



Effective and high quality Relationships and Sexuality Education [RSE] will help ensure children and young people experience their rights under the UNCRC, including:

- the right to non-discrimination (Article 2)
- the right to be heard, express opinions and be involved in decision-making (Article 12);
- the right to access information that will allow children to make decisions about health (Article 17)
- the right to experience the highest attainable health, access to health facilities, preventative health care, and family planning education and services (Article 24)
- the right to an education that support all children to develop and reach their full potential and prepare children to be understanding and tolerant to others (Article 29)
- the right to government protection from sexual abuse and exploitation (Article 34).

Families will always have an essential role in the education of their child, and this will include supporting children to understand relationships and sexuality. Education in school will not replace this learning, but will exist alongside it to ensure that all children and young people develop their understanding of healthy relationships, equality, safety, wellbeing and their rights.



The new legislation is just one element that will help ensure a much-needed process in Wales, to make sure all children and young people receive high quality opportunities to develop their understanding of relationships and sexuality. This will help empower children and young people with the understanding and skills they need to make safe, informed choices.

From September 2022 all pupils in Penmaes will participate in RSE lessons and a level appropriate to their needs. RSE is a mandatory area and therefore no child will be exempt from lessons. We as a school will ensure that as the RSE curriculum develops parents and carers are updated with relevant content.

Should anyone have any concerns or questions then these can be emailed to [office@penmaes.powys.sch.uk](mailto:office@penmaes.powys.sch.uk) and these will be forwarded to the relevant staff members.

